

I. POLICY

This policy establishes standards in reference to military courtesy within the ranks of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol.

II. CUSTOMS OF THE SERVICE

The Highway Patrol is a semi-military organization. A member's demeanor and bearing must exemplify training, discipline, integrity, ability and courage through the observance of certain military courtesies.

III. THE HAND SALUTE

An important military courtesy is the hand salute, which is a greeting to indicate proper military etiquette for persons of higher commissioned rank. The salute is rendered to commissioned officers by commissioned officers of lower rank, non-commissioned officers, Troopers, and all sworn officers.

Salute Properly

- The way a salute is executed is important because it reflects upon the organization. A properly executed salute indicates pride in oneself and the organization.

How to Execute the Hand Salute

- The proper salute is rendered by raising the right hand smartly until the tip of the forefinger touches the headgear just above and slightly to the right of the right eye. The fingers are lined tightly together and the thumb lies snugly along the side of the hand. The hand and wrist are straight so that they form a straight line from the fingertips to the elbow. The upper arm (elbow to shoulder) should be horizontal. In rendering the salute, your head and body should be facing toward the person being saluted. The hand is brought to the correct position in one motion without any preparatory movement. The salute is held until the officer or person being saluted returns the salute and drops his/her hand. The hand is then brought directly down to its natural position, without slapping the leg. Any flourish in the salute is improper.

IV. WHOM TO SALUTE

- President of the United States
- Governor of North Carolina
- Commissioned Officers of the Patrol